

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
2nd Session

Vote No. 204

July 18, 1996, 6:25 pm
Page S-8112 Temp. Record

WELFARE REFORM RECONCILIATION/Child Care Health-Safety Standards

SUBJECT: Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 . . . S. 1956. Dodd amendment No. 4902.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 96-0

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 1956, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996, will enact major welfare reforms. The Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program will be replaced with a new Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant to the States. The TANF block grant will be capped through 2001. Time limits will be placed on individuals receiving TANF benefits. Overall, the growth in non-Medicaid welfare spending will be slowed to 4.3 percent annually. The bill originally included major Medicaid reforms, but most of those provisions were stricken when the bill was reported. Without those Medicaid reforms, welfare spending will still be reduced by \$61.4 billion over 6 years.

The Dodd amendment would retain current Federal health and safety standards for federally subsidized child care programs (the bill will consolidate seven child care programs into a single block grant, the Child Care and Development block Grant (CCDBG), to assist low and moderate income parents in paying for child care.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

In 1990 Congress passed health and safety standards for child care providers, and gave the States great leeway in developing the means they would use to implement those standards. That 1990 legislation has been an unqualified success. States now have regulations in place to make sure that when children are left in daycare centers, they are in safe, clean environments, and the backgrounds of the providers have been checked. Those regulations have improved the reputation of the child care industry, making the law's strongest supporters the child care providers themselves. This bill, as drafted, consolidates several child care programs into a single block grant, and in so doing it eliminates the 1990 law. Last year, when the Senate considered the welfare reform bill, the law was also originally dropped, but the Senate agreed by amendment to retain it. We should do so again this year. This time, we are going to insist on a roll call vote in order to emphasize the importance the Senate attaches to this issue. We favor making welfare

(See other side)

YEAS (96)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (4)	
Republican (51 or 100%)		Democrats (45 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (2)	Democrats (2)
Abraham	Helms	Akaka	Inouye			Hatfield- ^{2AY}	Bradley- ²
Ashcroft	Hutchison	Baucus	Johnston			Inhofe- ²	Pryor- ²
Bennett	Jeffords	Biden	Kennedy				
Bond	Kassebaum	Bingaman	Kerrey				
Brown	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kerry				
Burns	Kyl	Breaux	Kohl				
Campbell	Lott	Bryan	Lautenberg				
Chafee	Lugar	Bumpers	Leahy				
Coats	Mack	Byrd	Levin				
Cochran	McCain	Conrad	Lieberman				
Cohen	McConnell	Daschle	Mikulski				
Coverdell	Murkowski	Dodd	Moseley-Braun				
Craig	Nickles	Dorgan	Moynihan				
D'Amato	Pressler	Exon	Murray				
DeWine	Roth	Feingold	Nunn				
Domenici	Santorum	Feinstein	Pell				
Faircloth	Shelby	Ford	Reid				
Frahm	Simpson	Glenn	Robb				
Frist	Smith	Graham	Rockefeller				
Gorton	Snowe	Harkin	Sarbanes				
Gramm	Specter	Heflin	Simon				
Grams	Stevens	Hollings	Wellstone				
Grassley	Thomas		Wyden				
Gregg	Thompson						
Hatch	Thurmond						
	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

recipients go to work, but when they do work, their children should be in safe and healthy environments. The Dodd amendment would protect children by requiring the retention of the Federal child care health and safety standards. We urge our colleagues to give it their overwhelming support.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.